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**A NEW TRIANGULATION OF THE UNIT SIMPLEX
FOR COMPUTING ECONOMIC EQUILIBRIA**

by Chuangyin Dang
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A NEW TRIANGULATION OF THE UNIT SIMPLEX FOR COMPUTING ECONOMIC EQUILIBRIA

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ABSTRACT - In order to compute economic equilibria in an exchange economy by means of a simplicial algorithm, we propose a new simplicial subdivision of the underlying price space, being the unit simplex. We call this subdivision the T'_1 -triangulation. We show that the T'_1 -triangulation is superior to the well known K'_1 - and J'_1 -triangulations according to measures of efficiency of triangulations.

1. INTRODUCTION

Since van der Laan and Talman [8] proposed the first simplicial variable dimension algorithm without an extra dimension, a lot of contributions to this field have appeared, e.g., see [3], [4], [6], [8], and [11]. These algorithms can be used to find an economic equilibrium in a pure exchange economy. They subdivide the price space, being the n -dimensional unit simplex S^n , into simplices and search for a simplex that yields an approximate equilibrium. So far, we might say that the triangulations which underly all these algorithms are adaptations or generalizations to S^n of the well known K_1 - and J_1 -triangulations of \mathbb{R}^n . In [2], we proposed a new

simplicial subdivision of \mathbb{R}^n , called the D_1 -triangulation, which is superior to the K_1 - and J_1 -triangulations. In order to improve the algorithms on S^n , we want to construct a simplicial subdivision of S^n by using the D_1 -triangulation, which is superior to the other triangulations of S^n .

Section 2 introduces the new triangulation of S^n , called the T'_1 -triangulation. We give the pivot rules of the T'_1 -triangulation in section 3. It is compared with the K'_1 - and J'_1 -triangulations in section 4.

2. A NEW TRIANGULATION OF THE UNIT SIMPLEX

Let m be a positive integer. Let $C^n(m) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid m \geq x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_n \geq 0\}$. Clearly, $C^n(m)$ is an n -dimensional simplex in \mathbb{R}^n .

We first triangulate $C^n(m)$ into n -dimensional simplices and then transform $C^n(m)$ to the n -dimensional unit simplex $S^n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid$

$\sum_{j=1}^{n+1} x_j = 1$, and $x_j \geq 0$ for $j = 1, \dots, n+1\}$. For $h = 1, \dots, n$, let u^h denote the h -th unit vector in \mathbb{R}^n . Let $T_1^{Oc} = \{y \in C^n(m) \mid \text{all components of } y \text{ are odd}\}$. Let $y_0 = m$ and $y_{n+1} = 0$. Let $y \in T_1^{Oc}$. Let

$$I = I(y) = \{i \mid y_{i+1} < y_i < y_{i-1}\},$$

$$I^+ = I^+(y) = \{i \mid y_{i+1} = y_i < y_{i-1}\},$$

$$I^- = I^-(y) = \{i \mid y_{i+1} < y_i = y_{i-1}\},$$

$$\text{and } J = J(y) = \{i \mid y_{i+1} = y_i = y_{i-1}\}.$$

Let $N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. It is obvious that for each $y \in T_1^{Oc}$,

$$N = I(y) \cup J(y) \cup I^+(y) \cup I^-(y).$$

Let $s = (s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)^T$ be a sign vector such that $s_i \in \{-1, +1\}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Let $T = T(y, s) = \{i \mid i \in I, \text{ or } i \in I^+ \text{ and } s_i = 1, \text{ or } i \in I^- \text{ and } s_i = -1\}$. Let π be a permutation of the elements of N . Let $q = q(\pi)$ be a nonnegative integer such that $\pi(i) \in T$ for $i = n-q+1, \dots, n$ and $\pi(n-q) \notin T$. Let $0 \leq p \leq q-1$ be an integer.

Assume $n \geq 2$.

If $q = n$ and $p = 0$, let $y^0 = y$,

$$y^k = y + s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

If $q = n$ and $p \geq 1$, let $y^0 = y + s$,

$$y^k = y^{k-1} - s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, p-1,$$

$$y^k = y + s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}, \quad k = p, \dots, n.$$

When $2 \leq q < n$, let $y^0 = y + s$,

$$y^k = y^{k-1} - s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n-q-1,$$

and if $p = 0$, let $y^{n-q} = y$,

$$y^k = y + s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}, \quad k = n-q+1, \dots, n,$$

and if $p \geq 1$, let

$$y^k = y^{k-1} - s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}, \quad k = n-q, \dots, n-q+p-1,$$

$$y^k = y + s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}, \quad k = n-q+p, \dots, n.$$

When $q < 2$, let $y^0 = y + s$,

$$y^k = y^{k-1} - s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Let y^0, y^1, \dots, y^n be produced in the above manner, then it is obvious that they are affinely independent. Let $\sigma = [y^0, y^1, \dots, y^n]$ be the convex hull of y^0, y^1, \dots, y^n . Thus σ is an n -dimensional simplex, which will be denoted by $T_1(y, \pi, s, p, q)$. Let $T_1(m)$ be the set of all such simplices $T_1(y, \pi, s, p, q)$ in $C^n(m)$.

Lemma 2.1. $\cup_{\sigma \in T_1(m)} \sigma = C^n(m)$.

Proof. Let $x \in C^n(m)$. Let

$$y_i = \begin{cases} \lfloor x_i \rfloor + 1, & \text{if } \lfloor x_i \rfloor \text{ is even and } \lfloor x_i \rfloor < m, \\ \lfloor x_i \rfloor - 1, & \text{if } \lfloor x_i \rfloor \text{ is even and } \lfloor x_i \rfloor = m, \\ \lfloor x_i \rfloor, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and let

$$s_i = \begin{cases} -1, & \text{if } \lfloor x_i \rfloor \text{ is even and } \lfloor x_i \rfloor < m \text{ or } \lfloor x_i \rfloor \text{ is odd and } \lfloor x_i \rfloor = m, \\ 1, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Obviously, $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)^T \in T_1^{0c}$. Let π

be a permutation of N such that $0 \leq s_{\pi(1)}(x_{\pi(1)} - y_{\pi(1)}) \leq s_{\pi(2)}(x_{\pi(2)} - y_{\pi(2)}) \leq \dots \leq s_{\pi(n)}(x_{\pi(n)} - y_{\pi(n)}) \leq 1$, where in case $s_{\pi(i)}(x_{\pi(i)} - y_{\pi(i)}) = s_{\pi(j)}(x_{\pi(j)} - y_{\pi(j)})$ and $i < j$, then $\pi(i) < \pi(j)$ if $s_{\pi(i)} = -1$, and $\pi(i) > \pi(j)$ if $s_{\pi(i)} = 1$. Let $q = q(\pi)$.

When $q < 2$, let $y^0 = y + s$, $y^k = y^{k-1} - s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and let $q_0 = s_{\pi(1)}(x_{\pi(1)} - y_{\pi(1)})$, $q_1 = s_{\pi(2)}(x_{\pi(2)} - y_{\pi(2)}) - s_{\pi(1)}(x_{\pi(1)} - y_{\pi(1)})$, \dots , $q_{n-1} = s_{\pi(n)}(x_{\pi(n)} - y_{\pi(n)}) - s_{\pi(n-1)}(x_{\pi(n-1)} - y_{\pi(n-1)})$, $q_n = 1 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} q_k = 1 - s_{\pi(n)}(x_{\pi(n)} - y_{\pi(n)})$. Obviously, $\sum_{k=0}^n q_k = 1$, $q_k \geq 0$ for all k , and $x = \sum_{k=0}^n q_k y^k$. So $x \in \sigma = [y^0, y^1, \dots, y^n] \subseteq C^n(m)$.

When $q = n$, the proof is similar to that of Lemma 2.2 in [2].

Suppose $2 \leq q < n$. If

$$\sum_{k=n-q}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)}) - q s_{\pi(n-q)}(x_{\pi(n-q)} - y_{\pi(n-q)}) \leq 1,$$

let $q_0 = s_{\pi(1)}(x_{\pi(1)} - y_{\pi(1)})$, $q_1 = s_{\pi(2)}(x_{\pi(2)} - y_{\pi(2)}) - s_{\pi(1)}(x_{\pi(1)} - y_{\pi(1)})$, ..., $q_{n-q-1} = s_{\pi(n-q)}(x_{\pi(n-q)} - y_{\pi(n-q)}) - s_{\pi(n-q-1)}(x_{\pi(n-q-1)} - y_{\pi(n-q-1)})$, $q_{n-q} = 1 - (\sum_{k=n-q}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)}) - qs_{\pi(n-q)}(x_{\pi(n-q)} - y_{\pi(n-q)}))$, $q_{n-q+1} = s_{\pi(n-q+1)}(x_{\pi(n-q+1)} - y_{\pi(n-q+1)}) - s_{\pi(n-q)}(x_{\pi(n-q)} - y_{\pi(n-q)})$, ..., $q_n = s_{\pi(n)}(x_{\pi(n)} - y_{\pi(n)}) - s_{\pi(n-q)}(x_{\pi(n-q)} - y_{\pi(n-q)})$, $p = 0$, $y^0 = y + s$, $y^k = y^{k-1} - s_{\pi(k)}u^{\pi(k)}$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-q-1$, $y^{n-q} = y$, $y^k = y + s_{\pi(k)}u^{\pi(k)}$, $k = n-q+1, \dots, n$, then $q_k \geq 0$ for all k , $\sum_{k=0}^n q_k = 1$, and $x = \sum_{k=0}^n q_k y^k$. Thus $x \in \sigma = [y^0, y^1, \dots, y^k] \subseteq C^n(m)$. If

$$\sum_{k=n-q}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)}) - qs_{\pi(n-q)}(x_{\pi(n-q)} - y_{\pi(n-q)}) > 1,$$

we show that there exists an integer $1 \leq p \leq q-1$ such that the following system has a nonnegative solution,

$$q_0 = s_{\pi(1)}(x_{\pi(1)} - y_{\pi(1)}),$$

$$q_1 = s_{\pi(2)}(x_{\pi(2)} - y_{\pi(2)}) - s_{\pi(1)}(x_{\pi(1)} - y_{\pi(1)}),$$

.....

$$q_{n-q+p-2} = s_{\pi(n-q+p-1)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p-1)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p-1)}) - s_{\pi(n-q+p-2)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p-2)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p-2)}),$$

$$q_{n-q+p-1} = -s_{\pi(n-q+p-1)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p-1)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p-1)}) + (\sum_{k=n-q+p}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)}) - 1)/(q-p),$$

$$q_k = s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)}) + (1 - \sum_{k=n-q+p}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)}))/(q-p), \quad k = n-q+p, \dots, n.$$

If $q_{n-q+p-1} \geq 0$ for $p = q-1$, it is clear that $q_k \geq 0$ for all k .

If not, then since $\sum_{k=n-q}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)}) - qs_{\pi(n-q)}(x_{\pi(n-q)} - y_{\pi(n-q)}) > 1$, there exists an integer $1 \leq p_0 \leq q-2$ such that

$$-s_{\pi(n-q+p_0-1)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p_0-1)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p_0-1)}) + (\sum_{k=n-q+p_0}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)} - 1)/(q-p_0) \geq 0,$$

$$-s_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p_0)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}) + (\sum_{k=n-q+p_0+1}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)} - 1)/(q-p_0-1) < 0.$$

Hence, $s_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p_0)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}) + (1 - \sum_{k=n-q+p_0}^n s_{\pi(k)}(x_{\pi(k)} - y_{\pi(k)}))/(q-p_0) \geq s_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p_0)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}) + ((q-p_0-1) s_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p_0)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}) - s_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}(x_{\pi(n-q+p_0)} - y_{\pi(n-q+p_0)}))/(q-p_0) = 0$. Thus when $p = p_0$, $q_k \geq 0$ for all k .

Obviously, $\sum_{k=0}^n q_k = 1$. Let $y^0 = y + s$, $y^k = y^{k-1} - s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, n-q+p-1$, and $y^k = y + s_{\pi(k)} u^{\pi(k)}$, $k = n-q+p, \dots, n$. We easily obtain that $x = \sum_{k=0}^n q_k y^k$. Therefore, $x \in \sigma = [y^0, y^1, \dots, y^n] \subseteq C^n(m)$.

From the above conclusions, the lemma follows immediately.

Theorem 2.2. $T_1(m)$ is a triangulation of $C^n(m)$.

Proof. From Lemma 2.1 and the definition, the theorem follows immediately.

We call the triangulation $T_1(m)$ the T_1 -triangulation of $C^n(m)$. Let P be the $(n+1) \times n$ matrix defined by

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & & & & \\ 1 & -1 & & & \\ & 1 & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \ddots & -1 \\ & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and let $\bar{u}^1 = (1, 0, \dots, 0)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$. Clearly, $S^n = m^{-1}PC^n(m) + \{\bar{u}^1\}$.

Let $T'_1 := m^{-1}PT_1 + \{\bar{u}^1\} = \{m^{-1}P\sigma + \{\bar{u}^1\} \mid \sigma \in T_1\}$.

Then T'_1 is a triangulation of S^n . It is called the T'_1 -triangulation with grid size m^{-1} . For $n = 2$ and $m = 4$ and for $n = 3$ and $m = 2$ the T'_1 -triangulation of S^n with grid size m^{-1} is illustrated in the figures 1 and 2, respectively.

3. THE PIVOT RULES OF THE T'_1 -TRIANGULATION

For convenience, we consider the pivot rules of the T_1 -triangulation of $C^n(m)$.

Let $\sigma = [y^0, y^1, \dots, y^n] = T_1(y, \pi, s, p, q)$ be given. We want to obtain the parameters of $\bar{\sigma} = [\bar{y}^0, \bar{y}^1, \dots, \bar{y}^n] = T_1(\bar{y}, \bar{\pi}, \bar{s}, \bar{p}, \bar{q})$ such that all vertices of σ are its vertices except y^i , in case the facet of σ opposite to vertex y^i does not lie in the boundary of $C^n(m)$. In Table (3-1), we show how \bar{y} , $\bar{\pi}$, \bar{s} , \bar{p} , and \bar{q} are determined from y , π , s , p , q , and i . From this table, it is easy to obtain each vertex \bar{y}^k of $\bar{\sigma}$, $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$, and in particular its new vertex.

4. THE COMPARISON OF THE K'_1 -, J'_1 -, AND T'_1 -TRIANGULATIONS OF S^n

In [2], we have introduced the D_1 -triangulation of R^n and demonstrated that it is superior to the well known K_1 - and J_1 -triangulations (see [1], [5], [10]) according to the number of simplices in the unit cube, the diameter, the average direction density, and the surface density. From the definition of the T_1 -triangulation of $C^n(m)$, it can be seen that we use the D_1 -triangulation to triangulate the interior of $C^n(m)$ and the J_1 -triangulation to triangulate the boundary of $C^n(m)$, i.e., we obtain the T_1 -triangulation of $C^n(m)$ by combining the D_1 -triangulation and the J_1 -triangulation. Hence, the T_1 -triangulation is superior to the triangulations of $C^n(m)$, which are obtained from the K_1 - and J_1 -triangulations. Therefore, the T'_1 -triangulation is superior to the well known K'_1 - and J'_1 -triangulations (see [9] and [10]) of S^n according to the same measures, where the K'_1 - and J'_1 -triangulations have been obtained from the K_1 - and J_1 -triangulations in the same way as the T'_1 - from the T_1 -triangulation.

Figure 1. T_1^- - triangulation of S^2 with $m^{-1} = 1/4$.

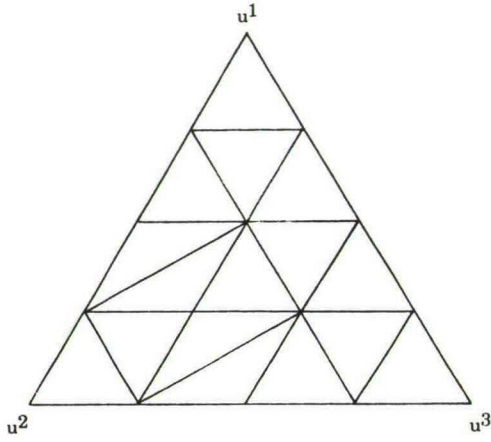


Figure 2. T_1^- - triangulation of S^3 with $m^{-1} = 1/2$.

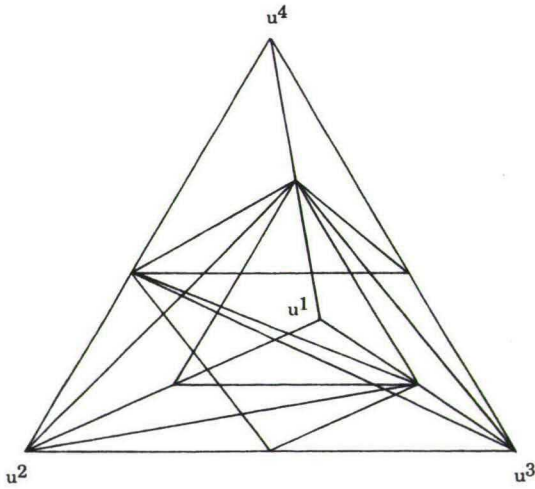


Table (3-1)

The Pivot Rules of the T_1 -Triangulation

i	p	q	π	\bar{y}	\bar{s}	$\bar{\pi}$	\bar{p}	\bar{q}	
0	0	n		y	s	π	p+1	q	
	1			y	s	π	p-1	q	
	2≤p≤q-1		$\pi(1) \in I^+(y) \cup I^-(y)$	y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p-1	q-1	
			$\pi(1) \notin I^+(y) \cup I^-(y)$	y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p	q	
	0	n-1	$\pi(1) \in J(y)$	y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p	q	
			$\pi(1) \in I^+(y) \cup I^-(y)$	y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p	q+1	
	p≥1		$\pi(1) \in J(y)$	y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p	q	
			$\pi(1) \in I^+(y) \cup I^-(y)$	y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p+1	q+1	

i	p	q	π	\bar{y}	\bar{s}	$\bar{\pi}$	\bar{p}	\bar{q}
0		$q < n-1$		y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p	q
$1 \leq i \leq n$	0	n	$\pi(1) \in I^+(y) \cup I^-(y)$	y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p	$q-1$
			$\pi(1) \notin I^+(y) \cup I^-(y)$	y	$s - 2s_{\pi(1)} u^{\pi(1)}$	π	p	q
	$i < p-1$			y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	q
	$i = p-1$			y	s	π	$p-1$	q
	$i > p-1$ $1 \leq p < n-1$			y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(p-1), \pi(i), \pi(p), \dots, \pi(i-1), \pi(i+1), \dots, \pi(n))$	$p+1$	q
	$n-1$			$y + 2s_{\pi(n)} u^{\pi(n)}$	$s - 2s_{\pi(n)} u^{\pi(n)}$	π	$q(\bar{\pi})-1$	$q(\bar{\pi})$
n	$n-1$			$y + 2s_{\pi(n-1)} u^{\pi(n-1)}$	$s - 2s_{\pi(n-1)} u^{\pi(n-1)}$	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(n), \pi(n-1))$	$q(\bar{\pi})-1$	$q(\bar{\pi})$

i	p	q	π	\bar{y}	\bar{s}	$\bar{\pi}$	\bar{p}	\bar{q}
$1 \leq i \leq n-q-2$		$2 \leq q < n$		y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	q
$n-q-1$	0		$\pi(n-q-1) \in T(y, s)$	y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	$q+1$
	$p \geq 1$			y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	$p+1$	$q+1$
			$\pi(n-q-1) \notin T(y, s)$	y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	q
$n-q$	0			y	s	π	$p+1$	q
	1			y	s	π	$p-1$	q
	$p \geq 2$			y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	$p-1$	$q-1$

i	p	q	π	\bar{y}	\bar{s}	$\bar{\pi}$	\bar{p}	\bar{q}
$n-q < i < n-q+p-1$		$2 \leq q < n$		y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	q
$n-q+p-1$	$p \geq 2$			y	s	π	$p-1$	q
$n-q+p-1 < i \leq p+q-1$	$1 \leq p < q-1$			y	s	π	$p+1$	q
n-1	q-1			$y+2s_{\pi(n)}u^{\pi(n)}$	$s-2s_{\pi(n)}u^{\pi(n)}$	π	$q(\bar{\pi})-1$	$q(\bar{\pi})$
n				$y+2s_{\pi(n-1)}u^{\pi(n-1)}$	$s-2s_{\pi(n-1)}u^{\pi(n-1)}$	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(n), \pi(n-1))$	$q(\bar{\pi})-1$	$q(\bar{\pi})$
$n-q < i \leq n$	0			y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(n-q-1), \pi(i), \pi(n-q), \dots, \pi(i-1), \pi(i+1), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	q-1

i	p	q	π	\bar{y}	\bar{s}	$\bar{\pi}$	\bar{p}	\bar{q}
$1 \leq i < n-2$		$q < 2$		y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	q
n				$y + 2s_{\pi(n)} u^{\pi(n)}$	$s - 2s_{\pi(n)} u^{\pi(n)}$	π	$q(\bar{\pi}) - 1$	$q(\bar{\pi})$
$n-2$			$\pi(i) \in T(y, s)$	y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	$q+1$
			$\pi(i) \notin T(y, s)$	y	s	$(\pi(1), \dots, \pi(i+1), \pi(i), \dots, \pi(n))$	p	q

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